(c) whether Government propose to construct/arrange special refrigerators to export at least 20 tonnes in one container to boost exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (b) No. Sir.

(c) The Government has no plans to construct/arrange special refrigerators to export atleast 20 tonnes in one container for mango exports. However, the Agricultural and processed Food Products Export Development Authority, APEDA, in association with the State Government agencies and leading exporters, has initiated experiments for undertaking trail shipment of managoes through Controlled Atmosphere(CA) container from selected regions for selected varieties having export potential. The success of this experiement is expected to help in enhacing the shelf life, quality of the product and its international competitiveness and thereby contribute to enhancement of export of mangoes.

Gas Cracker unit at Tengakhat, Assam

656. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how many months have remained to build the Gas Cracker unit at Tengakhat, Assam as per agreement with the Reliance Company;

(b) what is the progress made till now;

(c) whether it would be commissioned in time; and

(d) the amount paid to the Reliance company for this purpose by Government?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) to (d) The proposed Gas Cracker unit at Tengakhat, Assam is being implemented by Reliance Assam Petro-chmeicals Ltd. (RAPL), a joint venture between Assam Industrial Development Corporation and Reliance Industries Ltd.

The Government of Assam have identified 1262 acress of land out of which 144 acres have been handed over so far to RAPL. A number of steps have been taken for finalising the Gas Supply Agreement including identification of the source of the feed-stocks, discussions on transfer price of an existing gas separation plant at Lakwa and recruitment of personnel. The project has a target date of commission in 44 months from the date of signing of Gas Supply Agreement between RAPL and OIL India Ltd. and handing over of the entire land required for the project.

The Goverment of India has not made any payments so far for the project.

सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रमों की उत्पादन क्षमता

657. **श्री रमा शंकर कौशिक**: क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के अधिकांश उपक्रमों की उत्पादन क्षमता में कमी आई है और सावर्जनिक क्षेत्र का घाटा बढ़ा हैं;और

(ख) यदि हां,तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या हैं; और सरकार ने सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों की कार्यक्षमता और मुनाफा बढ़ाने हेतु क्या प्रभावी कदम उठाये हैं?

उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखबीर सिंह बादल): (क) और (ख) जी,नहीं । सरकारी क्षेत्र के उत्पादन कारी तथा विनिर्माण कारी उपक्रमों की उत्पादन क्षमता में गत वर्ष की तुलना में वर्ष 1997-98 के दौरान कोई खास अन्तर नहीं आया हैं ।

वर्ष 1997-98 के दौरान सरकारी क्षेत्र के उद्यमों ने कुल मिलाकर 13725.23 करोड़ रूपए का लाभ अर्जित किया हैं,जबकि वर्ष 1996-97 के दौरान 9991.82 करोड़ रूपए का लाभ हुआ था । लाभ अर्जित करने वाली कम्पनियों का लाभ 1996-97 के 16112.93 करोड़ रूपए हो गया । वर्ष 1997-98 के दौरान घाटा उठाने वाली कम्पनियों ने 6541.46 करोड़ रूपए का घाआ उठाया,जबकि गत वर्ष के दौरान 6117.41 करोड़ रूपए का घाटा उठाया था ।